U.S. EMBASSY PARIS, FRANCE

SECURITY UPDATE

The American Embassy in Paris reminds all Americans in France of the need to maintain a high level of vigilance and to take appropriate steps to increase their security awareness. Following recent events including the Mumbai attacks, the arrests of suspected al-Qaida terrorists in Belgium and France, the Taliban threat to attack French interests, and the recently discovered bombat a Paris department store, the Embassy reiterates the Department of State Worldwide Caution and concerns about the continued threat of terrorist attacks, demonstrations and other violent actions against U.S. citizens and interests overseas. Current information suggests that al-Qaida and affiliated organizations continue to plan terrorist attacks against U.S. interests in multiple regions, including Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East. These attacks may employ a wide variety of tactics including suicide operations, assassinations, kidnappings, hijackings and bombings. The full Caution Notice may be found at:

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/pa/pa_1161.html.

Currently, there is no new, specific, credible information available that would suggest that American citizens or interests are at any elevated risk. Nonetheless, we continue to urge all travelers to practice good personal security:

- Be aware of your surroundings and remain cautious
- Avoid large gatherings to the extent possible
- Regardless of where you are or what you are doing, have a plan to either escape or shelter in place, as appropriate. Two plans for each circumstance is better.
- Report suspicious behavior to the competent authorities immediately
- Trust your instincts
- When travelling, be sure to inform friends and/or supervisors of your plans and route.
 Should something untoward occur near your last known location, family, friends and office workers will be seeking information on your safety and status.

More travel safety advice is available at www.travel.state.gov.

The U.S. Embassy in Paris can be reached at 01-43-12-22-22 during regular hours and for after-hours emergencies. Our website address is http://france.usembassy.gov. For the latest security information, Americans living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs internet website at http://travel.state.gov, where the current Country Specific Information, Current Travel Warning, Current Travel Alerts, Worldwide Caution, and other Travel Alerts and Travel Warnings can be found.

Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada; or, for callers outside the U.S. and Canada, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

Americans living or traveling in France or Monaco are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through the <u>State Department's travel registration web site</u> and to obtain updated information on travel and security within France and Monaco. Americans without Internet access may register directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy or Consulate to contact them in cases of emergency.

United States Embassy

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